McGREGOR W. SCOTT



United States Attorney Eastern District of California

NEWS RELEASE

Sacramento

501 I Street, Suite 10-100 Sacramento, CA 95814 Tel 916/554-2700 TTY 916/554-2877 Fresno

2500 Tulare St., Suite 4401 Fresno, CA 93721 Tel (559) 497-4000 TTY (559) 497-4500

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 30, 2007

Contact: Mary Wenger (916) 554-2730

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WOODLAND MEN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR TAX EVASION IN CONNECTION WITH SACRAMENTO TIRE STORE

SACRAMENTO - United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that MOHAMMAD AHAD PARVEZ, age 41, and IJAZ GHANI, age 36, both of Woodland, California, were sentenced to 16 months imprisonment and 10 months of imprisonment/home detention, respectively, for tax evasion.

This case was the product of extensive investigation by special agents of the Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigation Division and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

PARVEZ and GHANI, owners of A & A Tires ("A & A") in Sacramento, previously entered guilty pleas to filing false tax returns before Senior United States District Court Judge Lawrence K. Karlton. They were sentenced by Judge Karlton this morning.

According to Assistant United States Attorney S. Robert Tice-Raskin, who handled the prosecution, GHANI and PARVEZ maintained two sets of accounting books for A & A, one which accurately reflected the gross receipts or sales for the business, and one which substantially understated the gross sales for the business. In 2004, A & A had gross sales of approximately \$1,586,998.96 and each defendant, a 50% partner, had to declare that he had received 50% of these gross receipts, or approximately \$793,499.48, on his individual tax return. PARVEZ,

however, reported on his 2004 Form 1040 only \$30,732 in income from another unrelated business and did not report any of the \$793,499.48 in income he had received from A & A. GHANI reported on his 2004 Form 1040 that he received \$329,065.00 of gross receipts associated with A & A, but falsely failed to report that he had received \$464,434.48 of additional income from A & A in that year.

The IRS recalculated PARVEZ's and GHANI's 2004 tax liability utilizing, among other things, the corrected gross receipts offset by all appropriate costs of goods sold and expenses, and it was determined that the total tax loss to the government was \$57,051.00 as to PARVEZ and \$52,832.00 as to GHANI. In addition, PARVEZ acknowledged as part of his plea agreement that, on a series of occasions, he purposefully made deposits at various local banks in amounts less than \$10,000 or "structured deposits" in order to avoid the Currency Transaction Reporting requirements which require financial institutions to report currency transactions over \$10,000.00.

As part of the plea and sentence, PARVEZ forfeited approximately \$24,000 from one of his business bank accounts and paid full restitution of \$57,051.00 to the IRS for his owed taxes. GHANI, likewise, has paid restitution of \$52,832.00 to the IRS for his owed taxes and was ordered to pay a fine of \$3,000.00.

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